

VALPARAISO UNIVERSITY SPANISH HOUSE (CASA ESPAÑOLA)

GENERAL INFORMATION

I. Eligibility

- Applicants are taking or will have completed at least FLS 204 or have attained that level through other means (to be determined by placement exam score and/or consultation with VU Spanish faculty).
- Students who are heritage speakers (students who speak some Spanish at home) are encouraged to apply:
- Applications will be accepted from any student, regardless of major.
- Selection will be based on a combination of class standing, GPA, and capacity to contribute to the success of the Spanish House. Appropriate gender assignment within an apartment may also affect selection.

II. Rules and Expectations

- The same rules that govern other residence halls on campus are observed at the Spanish House, particularly with regard to alcohol and visitation (please refer to policies established by *Residential Life*). The Spanish House is a non-smoking facility.
- Residents of the Spanish House *will use Spanish with one another* in all common areas of each apartment (living room, kitchen, and dining room). English may be used with non-Spanish speaking guests or visitors.
- Residents *will assist in organizing regular Spanish Club meetings*, whether at the Spanish House or at another location on campus. Residents are expected to develop and participate in additional activities that include non-residents and that promote use of Spanish and knowledge of Hispanic cultures.
- Residents are expected to *take their weekday evening meals (Sunday-Thursday) together at the Spanish House*. The shopping for, expense, preparation, and hosting of these meals will be shared equally among the residents on a rotation basis. Sophomores and juniors are also required to purchase a meal card to use for breakfast and/or lunch elsewhere on campus. The required amount remains to be determined, but will likely parallel that charged to residents of the German or French Houses.
- Since weekday meals are such an essential part of the Spanish House experience, students should plan their course schedules and extracurricular activities so as not to conflict with meal times.
- A native Spanish-speaking RA will reside in one of the units and will organize and coordinate the general activities of the Spanish House.